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May 3, 2000

For Immediate Release:

MORE THAN 1,600 TO RECEIVE DEGREES FROM EIU

CHARLESTON -- More than 1,600 students are expected to graduate from Eastern Illinois University this spring, and the majority of those – about 1,500 – will participate in formal commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 6.

Graduation ceremonies will be at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. in Lantz Gymnasium. Guest tickets are required for admission to the ceremonies.

The Graduate School and College of Sciences will march in the morning ceremony; the College of Arts and Humanities and the College of Education and Professional Studies at 1 p.m.; and the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences and the School of Adult and Continuing Education at 5 p.m.

Addressing graduates at all three ceremonies will be Eastern President Carol D. Surles; Student Body President Michael Leshoure of Champaign; Sylvia Nichols of Edwardsville and Victor Brooks of Batavia, president and vice president of the EIU Alumni Association; and Faculty Senate Chairperson Bonnie Irwin. Representing Eastern's Board of Trustees in the morning ceremony will be Roger Dettro of Mattoon; in the afternoon, Carl Koerner Jr., of

—more—

Effingham; and in the evening, Betsy D. Mitchell of Savoy.

The faculty marshal for the 9 a.m. ceremony is Robert Whittenbarger, professor of sociology/anthropology, who represents the College of Sciences. He has been a member of Eastern's faculty since 1975.

Representing the College of Arts and Humanities as faculty marshal in the afternoon ceremony will be Garret DeRuiter, professor of art and faculty development coordinator. He has been with Eastern since 1965.

Thomas Moncada, associate professor of accountancy and finance and a member of Eastern's faculty since 1980, will represent the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences during the evening ceremony.

Special recognition will be given to five Livingston C. Lord Scholarship recipients. The prestigious scholarships, named after Eastern's first president, are presented annually at commencement to five candidates who plan to pursue careers in elementary or secondary education. Nominees must be of junior status. This year's recipients are Michelle Hohimer of Chatham, Erin Knuffman of Manville, Jennifer Walker of Lombard, Jada Warmick of Peoria and Sarah Weaver of Ashkum.